

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *HAPALOTIS*,
(*H. BOWERI*) FROM NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA.

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HAPALOTIS BOWERI, *sp. nov.*

Plate XVIII.

Adult male.—The hair appears to be of one kind only, and is of a light grey pencilled with longer black hairs on the upper surface of the body and limbs; from slightly in front of the ears, down the back of the head, and central portion of the back, is a broad, distinct, but irregular band of golden brown, rufescent on the nape, and on the base of the tail for about an inch from its root; from thence for about one-sixth of its length, the tail is blackish. For the remainder of its length the tail is quite white—almost bare in the central portion, but with the hairs becoming longer, until it ends in a well-defined brush of long white hairs; the scaly rings are visible for about three-fourths of the whole length, the upper and under surface of the hands and feet, and the whole of the under surface of the body is white. Whiskers black, their tips extending to the shoulders; a narrow black ring round the eye. Ears brown, almost naked, the tips rounded. Total length to root of tail, 11 inches; tail to end of vertebræ, 12 inches; extent of reddish-brown mark at the root of tail, 1 inch; of the black patch following, 2 inches; the brush of hair at the end of the tail extends 1 inch beyond the last vertebra. Distance from snout to eye, 1·2 inches; distance from snout to base of the ear, 2·2 inches; the ear in length along the back portion, 1 inch; width across base in front, 0·5 inch; hind foot, 2·1 inches; fore foot, 1 inch.

I regret to find that the skull has been removed in preparing the skin, but the dentition is doubtless the same as in the other members of the genus; outwardly, this species is a typical *Hapalotis*. (1)

This well-marked species comes nearest to *H. apicalis* of Gould, but is larger and differs considerably in its markings. In the small ears and rusty hue down the back, it approaches *H. hemileucura* of the same author, but in colour and markings it is otherwise quite distinct from these and all other previously described species.

I have dedicated this very distinct species to my lamented friend and fellow-worker, the late T. H. Boyer-Bower, Esq., who has so recently lost his life in exploring the unknown coast district of North Western Australia, and who had forwarded to me the type specimen in one of his last consignments.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XVIII.

HAPALOTIS BOWERI, Ramsay.

- Fig. 1.—Side view of skull.
 Fig. 2.—Palate, &c.
 Fig. 3.—Skull from above.
 Fig. 4.—Ramus.
 Fig. 5.—Side view of same.
 Fig. 6.—Under surface of hindfoot.
 Fig. 7.—Under surface of forefoot.
 Fig. 8.—Teeth of upper jaw (enlarged).
 Fig. 9.—Teeth of lower jaw (enlarged).

All figures (except 8 and 9) of natural size.

(1) Since the above was written I have received another specimen from Mr. Cairn's collection made in the same district; the skull of which will be found figured of natural size in the plate, together with the hand and foot.